

## Booker T. Washington High School

Date: 10/8/2025

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Hybrid

I. Call to order: 5:37 pm

II. Roll Call

| Role                   | Name (or Vacant)    | Present or Absent |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Principal              | Tiwana Crooms       | Present           |
| Parent/Guardian        | Sheri Kimbrough     | Absent            |
| Parent/Guardian        | Nicole Riggins      | Present           |
| Parent/Guardian        | Sharifa Jackson     | Present           |
| Instructional Staff    | Marsha Williams     | Present           |
| Instructional Staff    | Liza Newberry       | Present           |
| Instructional Staff    | Sean Stallings      | Present           |
| Community Member       | Tameka Askew        | Present           |
| Community Member       | Kendra Brown Choice | Absent            |
| Community Member       | Lolita Washington   | Present           |
| Swing Seat             | Lasandra Arnold     | Present           |
| Student (High Schools) | Belle Williams      | Absent            |
| Student                | Joseph Rosser       | Present           |

Quorum Established: Yes

III. Action Items

- a. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by: Nicole Riggins; Seconded by: Tameka Askew

Members Approving: Unanimous

Members Opposing:

Members Abstaining:

**Motion Passes**

- b. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** List amendments to the minutes: None  
Motion made by: Nicole Riggins; Seconded by: Lasandra Arnold

Members Approving: Unanimous

Members Opposing:

Members Abstaining:

**Motion Passes**



c. **Action Item 1: Motion: Add Removing Sheri Kimbrough from the GO Team to the Agenda**

Motion made by: Nicole Riggins; Seconded by: Lasandra Arnold

**Members Approving:** Nicole Riggins, Lasandra Arnold, Tameka Askew, Sean Stallings

**Members Opposing:** Marsha Williams

**Members Abstaining:** Sharifa Jackson

**Motion Passes**

d. **Action Item 2: Motion: To Remove Sheri Kimbrough from the Booker T. Washington GO Team due to lack of participation**

Motion made by: Nicole Riggins; Seconded by: Lasandra Arnold

**Members Approving:** Nicole Riggins, Sean Stallings, Lasandra Arnold, Tameka Askew

**Members Opposing:**

**Members Abstaining:** Marsha Williams

**Motion** [Passes/Fails]

#### IV. Discussion Items

a. **Discussion Item 1:** The team discussed and voted on removing a parent member who has not been participating.

- **Details**

- **Nicole Riggins:** Explained that Sherry Kimbrough had not attended any meetings last year or this year, despite holding a two-year seat.
- **Nicole Riggins:** Emphasized the importance of having full parent representation, especially during strategic planning.

- **Conclusion**

- Motion passed with 4 votes in favor, 1 abstention, and no votes against.

b. **Discussion Item 2: Graduation Rate**

Principal Crooms presented the school's graduation rate data showing significant improvement.

- **Details**

- **Tiauna Crooms:** Shared that the 2024-25 graduation rate is 85.4%, a 5.7 percentage point increase from the previous year.
- **Tiauna Crooms:** Highlighted the dramatic improvement in Students with Disabilities (SWD) graduation rate from 57.5% to 77.8%.
- **Tiauna Crooms:** Set target goals of 91% overall graduation rate and 85% for SWD population for the next year.

- **Conclusion**

- The school has shown consistent improvement in graduation rates.

- Booker T. Washington is one of four schools showing significant growth in graduation rates.

**c. Discussion Item 3: 2025-2030 Strategic Plan Development**

Principal Crooms provided an overview of the strategic planning process and alignment with APS goals.

- **Details**

- **Tiauna Crooms:** Explained that the school's strategic plan must align with APS district goals and focus areas.
- **Tiauna Crooms:** Reviewed APS's six focus areas and board goals, including increasing 3rd grade ELA proficiency, 8th grade math proficiency, and College and Career Readiness indicators by 20 percentage points by 2030.
- **Tiauna Crooms:** Presented the school's Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and current data points.

- **Conclusion**

- The GO Team will need to review and update the school's mission, vision, strategic goals, focus areas, and objectives.
- The strategic plan must be updated, approved, and ranked by January 2026 to guide budget decisions.

**d. Discussion Item 4: School Enrollment and Community Housing**

The team discussed concerns about declining enrollment and its relationship to affordable housing.

- **Details**

- **Tiauna Crooms:** Noted that enrollment had decreased by about 108 students to 780 currently.
- **Nicole Riggins:** Expressed concern about the goal of 1,200 students by 2030, noting that 1,500 is needed for full state funding.
- **Nicole Riggins:** Questioned what APS is doing to increase affordable family housing in the attendance zone.
- **Tameka Askew:** Explained that Westside Future Fund is working to ensure current community residents can stay in the area.

- **Conclusion**

- Enrollment is directly tied to affordable housing availability in the school zone.
- Community partnerships are essential to address housing issues affecting enrollment.

**e. Discussion Item 5: Mission and Vision Statement Review**

The team reviewed the current mission and vision statements for potential updates.

- **Details**

- **Nicole Riggins:** Suggested adding "empowering" or "empowerment" to better align with current APS administration language.
- **La'Sandra Arnold:** Questioned the significance of changing from "caring culture" to "empowering."
- **Nicole Riggins:** Clarified that the suggestion was to align with current APS branding while maintaining Washington's legacy focus.

- **Conclusion**

- Principal Crooms will draft updated mission and vision statements incorporating the suggestion to add "empowering" for review at the next meeting.

## V. Information Items

### a. Principal's Report Continuous Improvement Goals

Principal Crooms presented the school's continuous improvement goals and recommendations for 2030 strategic goals.

- **Details**

- **Tiauna Crooms:** Shared four focus areas aligned with APS goals and the school's continuous improvement plan.
- **Tiauna Crooms:** Presented goals for increasing EOC scores, reducing chronic absenteeism, improving graduation rates, and increasing pathway completers.
- **Lolita Washington:** Asked about the factors contributing to student absenteeism.

- **Conclusion**

- The school has set specific targets for improvement by 2026 and stretch goals for 2030.
- 9th grade has the highest absenteeism rate and is a focus area for improvement.

### b. Information Item 2 Comprehensive Long-Range Facilities Plan

Nicole Riggins presented information about the district's facilities plan affecting Washington High School.

- **Details**

- **Nicole Riggins:** Explained that Booker T. Washington High School will remain the cluster high school with district-wide choice programs.
- **Nicole Riggins:** Noted potential \$50-70 million investment in Washington High School (dependent on E-SPLOST).

### c.

## VI. Announcements School Updates and Announcements

Updates were shared about upcoming events and initiatives.

- **Details**

- **Tiauna Crooms:** Announced fall break for students and upcoming homecoming week activities.
- **Tiauna Crooms:** Highlighted monthly parent-teacher conferences held on the last Tuesday of each month.
- **Lolita Washington:** Shared that the Alumni Association partnered with Hunter Hill Church to deliver 80+ meals for families and is working with the culinary arts department to prepare food for athletic programs.

- **Conclusion**

- The school has active student leadership through SGA.
- Community partnerships are supporting students and families.

## Challenges

- Chronic absenteeism remains a significant issue, with only 44.7% of students not chronically absent.
- Student enrollment has decreased by approximately 108 students, affecting school funding and resources.
- Only 28.8% of students feel comfortable going to most or all adults in the school for help, requiring improvement in student-staff relationships.
- Affordable housing availability in the school zone continues to impact enrollment and student stability.

## Action items

- **All GO Team Members**

- Review the PowerPoint presentation, KPI data, 2025 Strategic Plan, and continuous improvement goals before the next meeting
- Consider potential changes to the mission and vision statements
- Prepare to vote on strategic goals and objectives at upcoming meetings

- **Tiauna Crooms**

- Draft updated mission and vision statements incorporating "empowering" or "empowerment"
- Share PTA meeting information with GO Team members
- Send the PowerPoint presentation to all GO Team members

- **Lolita Washington**

- Help recruit parents for the PTA using football program parent database
- **Next GO Team Meeting**
  - Scheduled for November 13, 2025
  - Will focus on identifying 2025-2030 Strategic Objectives

## **VII. Adjournment**

Motion made by: Nicole Riggins; Seconded by: Lasandra Arnold

**Members Approving:** Unanimous

**Members Opposing:**

**Members Abstaining:**

**Motion Passes**

**ADJOURNED AT 7:05 pm**

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**Minutes Taken By:** Nicole Riggins

**Position:** Secretary

**Date Approved:** [Insert Date When Approved]